

# MRFSS Facts and Figures

## North Carolina 1998



Five Frequently Encountered Fish 1998					
Species	Number Caught (Thousands)	Number Harvested (Thousands)	Pounds Harvested (Thousands)	Number Released (Thousands)	Mean Length (Harvested Fish)
SPOT	3,515	2,865	1,250	650	8.7"
ATLANTIC CROAKER	1,448	387	161	1,061	9.2"
BLUEFISH	1,061	527	920	534	14.2"
PIGFISH	1,050	329	114	721	8.2"
DOLPHIN	473	462	3,467	10	27.2"

Length data are reported as fork length. (For most species = tip of snout to fork in tail.)

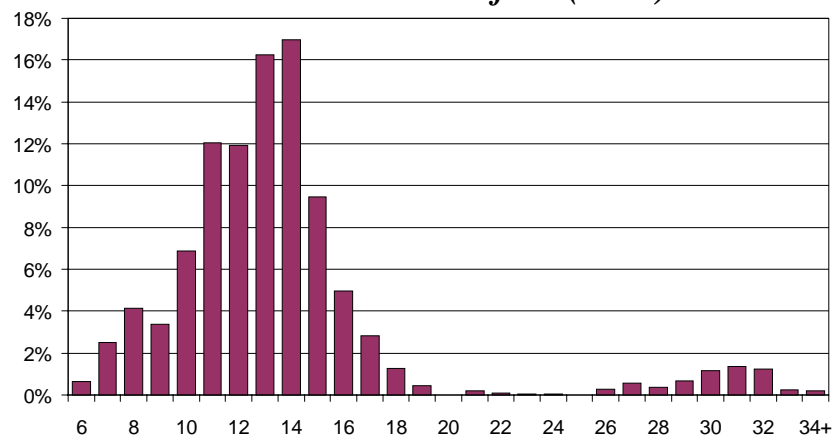
### Bluefish

*Pomatomus saltatrix*



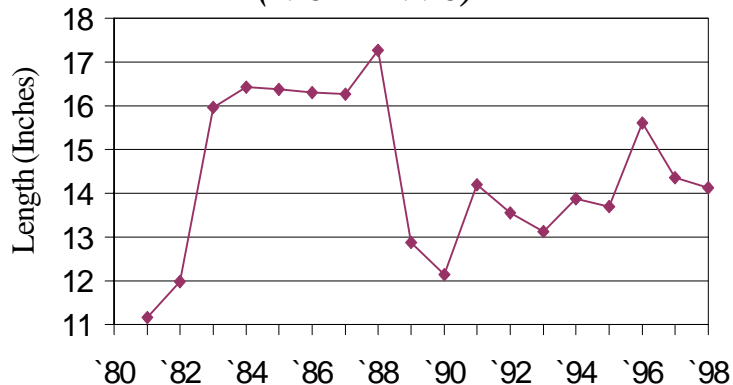
Since 1981, MRFSS field personnel have identified over 135 species of marine fish landed in North Carolina.

### Length Distribution (in inches) Harvested Bluefish (1998)

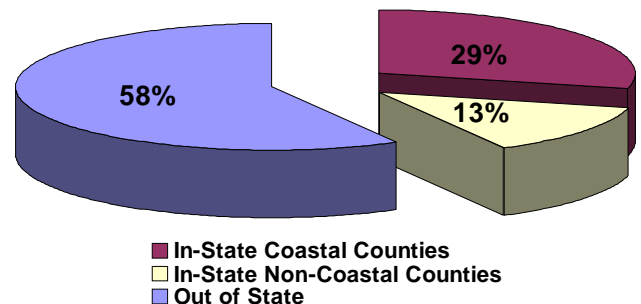


In 1998, over 57% of harvested bluefish averaged between 11 and 14 inches in length.

### Average Length of Harvested Bluefish (1981 - 1998)

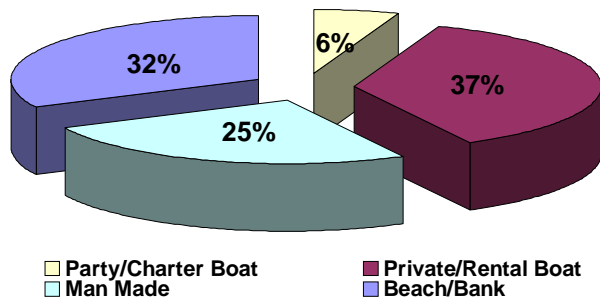


### North Carolina Anglers' Area of Residence (1998)



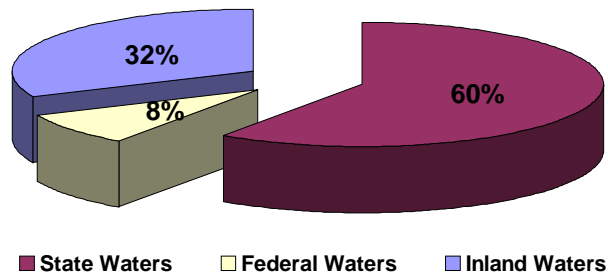
In 1998, nearly 1.1 million anglers participated in North Carolina's Marine Recreational Fishery.

### Saltwater Fishing Trips by Fishing Mode (1998)

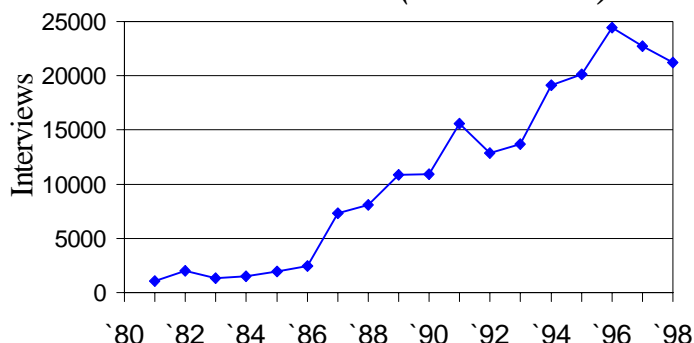


In 1998, anglers took nearly 4.5 million saltwater fishing trips in North Carolina.

### Saltwater Fishing Trips by Area Fished (1998)

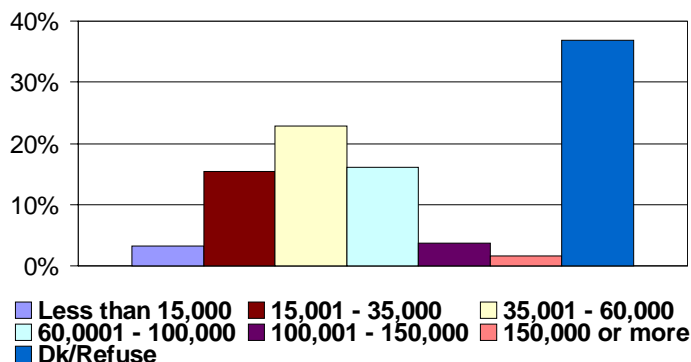


### Number of Completed Field Surveys North Carolina (1980 - 1998)

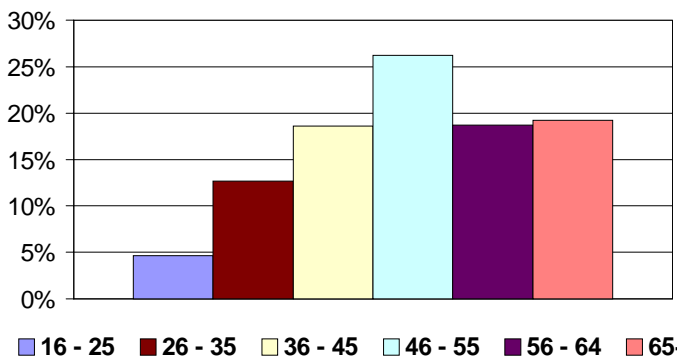


In 1998, MRFSS field personnel completed 21,200 surveys in North Carolina.

### Income Distribution for North Carolina Anglers (1997)



### Age Distribution of North Carolina Anglers (1997)



The base MRFSS sample size was increased by 150% for the Southeast U.S. (NC-LA) beginning in 1992.

Other large increases in the number of completed interviews represent years in which state contributions increased sample size. In 1998, contributions by the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries increased the number of completed field surveys by 320% over the base MRFSS. North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries personnel also conduct the field survey.

## NORTH CAROLINA MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHING INFORMATION

North Carolina Division of  
Marine Fisheries (NCDMF)

(800) 682-2632 <http://ncdmf.net/recreational.htm>

NCDMF Rules and Regulations

(800) 682-2632 <http://ncdmf.net/recguide.htm>

North Carolina DMF - Field Offices

Wilmington (800) 248-4536

Washington (800) 338-7804

Elizabeth City (800) 338-7805

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

(843) 571-4366 [www.safmc.nmfs.gov](http://www.safmc.nmfs.gov)

Rules and Regs: [www.safmc.nmfs.gov/safmcweb/Fishid/idregs.html](http://www.safmc.nmfs.gov/safmcweb/Fishid/idregs.html)

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

(202) 289-6400 [www.asmfc.org](http://www.asmfc.org)